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Economic and Social Council

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Commission for Social Development
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Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly: review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups

Benin: draft resolution

The Commission for Social Development recommends to the Economic and Social Council the approval of the following draft resolution:

"The Economic and Social Council recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"Preparations for the observance of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family in 2004

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* its resolution 44/82 of 8 December 1989, 45/133 of 14 December 1990, 46/92 of 16 December 1991, 47/237 of 20 September 1993, 50/142 of 21 December 1995, 52/81 of 12 December 1997, 54/124 of 17 December 1999, 56/113 of 19 December 2001 and 57/164 of 18 December 2002 concerning the proclamation of, preparations for and observance of the International Year of the Family in 1994 and its tenth anniversary in 2004,

"*Recognizing* that the tenth anniversary of the Year constitutes an important opportunity to strengthen and enhance the effectiveness of efforts at all levels to carry out specific programmes within the framework of the Year objectives,

"*Recognizing* that 2004 is to be viewed as a target year by which concrete achievements are to be made to identify and elaborate issues of direct concern to families, and that mechanisms have been set up to plan and coordinate activities by the appropriate governmental and non-governmental bodies and agencies,

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"*Emphasizing* that equality between women and men and respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms of all family members are essential to family well-being and to society at large, and noting the importance of reconciliation of work and family life and that both parents are responsible for the upbringing and development of their children,

"*Noting* with satisfaction the close collaboration of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations active in the family field, as well as its research efforts and preparations for the tenth anniversary of the Year,

"*Appreciating* the active role of the regional commissions in the preparatory process of the tenth anniversary, particularly in facilitating regional cooperation in that regard,

"*Recalling* that one plenary meeting will be devoted at its fifty-ninth session, in 2004, to the observance of the tenth anniversary of the Year, building upon the events to be held on 15 May 2004 on the occasion of the International Day of Families,

"1. *Encourages* Governments to make every possible effort to realize the objectives of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family and to integrate a family perspective in the planning process;

"2. *Recalls* its invitation to all States to set the end of 2003 as a target date for finalizing a programme for the observance of the tenth anniversary;

"3. *Recalls* its invitation to Governments who have not already done so to set up national coordinating committees or similar mechanisms, as appropriate, for the anniversary, and invites them, as well as the Governments of countries with existing bodies responsible for preparations and observance, to intensify preparatory measures already under way;

"4. *Recommends* that all relevant actors, including Governments, civil society including relevant non-governmental organizations, and research and academic institutions, contribute to developing strategies and programmes aimed at strengthening the livelihood of families;

"5. *Encourages* United Nations agencies and bodies, including the regional commissions, as well as intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, research and academic institutions, to work closely with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat in a coordinated manner on family-related issues, including by sharing experience and findings, recognizing their valuable role in family policy development at all levels;

"6. *Recalls* its invitation to the Secretary-General to launch the tenth anniversary of the Year in early December 2003;

"7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to it at its fifty-ninth session, through the Commission for Social Development and the Economic and Social Council, on the final preparations for the observance of the tenth anniversary of the Year at all levels."